

Point Module II—Conservation Reserve Program

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) information was first collected in the 1992 National Resources Inventory (NRI). Program revision has necessitated some change in data collection for the 1997 NRI.

Definitions

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). A Federal program established under the Food Security Act of 1985 to assist private landowners to convert highly erodible cropland to vegetative cover for 10 years. [NMCSP]

Conservation Reserve Program I. For NRI purposes, a field that has been accepted into CRP through Food Security Act (FSA) signups 1 through 13 and 15. [NRI-97]

Conservation Reserve Program II. For NRI purposes, individual CRP practices that are associated with FSA signup 14. [NRI-97]

Field. A cultivated expanse of land that is set aside for a particular crop or cropping sequence. [NRI-97]

Importance

Lands are removed from agricultural production and are returned to agricultural production as a result of farm programs. It is necessary to determine resulting changes in resource conditions. The data provide the ability to determine the conditions that existed before entering into the programs to track what happens to the land after the program expires and to determine possible effects of proposed policies and programs.

Guidelines and Clarification

Much of the data for CRP will require a search of office records and cannot be determined by photo interpretation.

Enter data for signups 1 through 13, and for signups 14 and 15 if information is available. Information for signup 15 should be available from the Farm Services Agency (FSA) in early summer 1997. Final information on signup 14 (for FY97) should be available November 1997 from FSA.

If information is not yet available for one or both of these recent signups, there are provisions to select **Unable to complete**. For sample points where this provision is used, the CRP module will need updating after the new signup information is received from FSA.

Report as CRP land the land that comes under contract in signups 14 and 15, but will not be placed in contracted cover practices until FY 1998 or FY 1999. For this situation, record in Point Module III the actual cover/use and not as CRP land.

If the point is where a CRP contract has expired, but still shows CRP vegetation, record the observed land cover/use in Point Module III and not as CRP land.

In 1997 two types of programs are available to participants. One is called **Conservation Reserve Program I** for NRI purposes and has been in effect for some time. This program is available for signups 1 through 13 and 15 and involves a relatively large area removed from production and placed in specified cover practices. The second type is called **Conservation Reserve Program II** for NRI purposes and is emphasized under signup 14, but had been available in earlier signups on a limited basis. This program permits relatively small areas, such as grassed waterways, buffer strips, and wetlands, to be placed under CRP contract.

For the 1997 NRI, information is collected for both Program I and Program II. For Program I (signups 1–13 and 15), the NRI sample point must fall in a CRP field. For Program I, if any two NRI points are in the same CRP field, record the same CRP information for both points. Because Program II (signup 14) consists of relatively small areas rather than entire fields, a different protocol is used. For Program II, the NRI sample point must fall within the portion of a field that both: (a) is within the PSU, and (b) contains one or more practices contracted under signup 14; it is not necessary for the point to fall directly on one of these practices. (Note: This protocol is different than that used for any other NRI data element; it is being used so that signup 14 data can be incorporated statistically into the NRI data base.) For Program II, if two points within the same PSU are in the same field, record the same CRP information for both points.

Documentation Required in PSU Folder

Record the field/tract number. A copy of the FSA photograph showing the location of CRP field is suggested.

PDA Instructions

CRP information is recorded in two sections: Conservation Reserve Program I and Conservation Reserve Program II.

A. Conservation Reserve Program I (signups 1–13 and 15)

1. Under CRP contract—If the point falls in a field that is under an existing CRP contract or has been accepted for a CRP contract in signups 1 through 13 or has been accepted for a CRP contract in signup 15, select **Yes** and continue to 2 and 3.

If the answer is no, select **No**.

If information for signup 15 is not yet available, select UC for 15 (unable to complete for signup 15).

Point 1:27013:010101R:1:Point Speci...		
2.1 Conservation Reserve Program I		
	92	97
Contract 1-13,15?	0	
Sign-up number	0	
Contracted practice	0	
Does the point fall in a field containing practices within the PSU that are under contract 14?		
◆ 0		
:		
<div> </div> <div> Names Dates Extras Undo Find Assist </div>		

2. Signup number—Enter the CRP signup number.

Signup number	Signup dates
1	03/03/86 – 03/14/86
2	05/05/86 – 05/16/86
3	08/04/86 – 08/15/86
4	02/09/87 – 02/27/87
5	07/20/87 – 07/31/87
6	02/01/88 – 02/19/88
7	07/18/88 – 08/31/88
8	02/06/89 – 02/24/89
9	07/17/89 – 08/04/89
10	03/04/91 – 03/15/91
11	07/08/91 – 07/19/91
12	06/15/92 – 06/26/92
13	09/11/95 – 09/22/95
15	03/03/97 – 03/28/97

3. Contracted practices—Record the major contracted field cover practice.

Code	Contracted field cover practice
1	Grasses and legumes (for signups 1 – 13 & 15)
2	Trees (for signups 1 – 13 & 15)
3	Wildlife and components (for signups 1 – 13 & 15)
4	Shallow water cover (for signup 15 only)

4. CRP signup 14—If the point falls within the portion of a field that (a) is within the PSU, and (b) contains one of more practices contracted under CRP signup 14, select **Yes** and continue to the next screen, Conservation Reserve Program II.

If the answer is **no**, tap the completion check box to verify data entry. Resolve any reported edit checks.

If information is not currently available for signup 14, then select **uc for 14** (unable to complete for signup 14).

B. Conservation Reserve Program II

This screen appears when Yes is entered for CRP signup 14 at the bottom of screen 2.1, Conservation Reserve Program I.

1. Practices—Select the practice codes and practice types from the choice list and enter the total acres for each practice type to the nearest 0.1 acre; include only the portion of the field within the PSU.

Practice codes for signup 14	Practice type
CP5A	Field windbreak
CP8A	Grassed waterway
CP9	Shallow water areas for wildlife
CP15A	Establishment of permanent vegetative cover (contour grass strips)
CP16A	Shelterbelt
CP17A	Living snow fences
CP21	Filter strips
CP22	Riparian buffer

Point 1:27013:010101R:1:Point Speci...

2.2 Conservation Reserve Program II

Note

Practices	Acres

Size of field within PSU—

Names Dates Extras Undo Find Assist

2. Size of field within PSU—Enter the size of the portion of the field that is within the PSU, to the nearest acre.

Examples

1. Conservation Reserve Program I (see exhibit 1)

Point #1 falls in a field that was accepted in the CRP program during signup 13 and was established to trees. In the PDA on screen 2.1, the code for **yes** is entered for the first question, signup number **13** is entered for the second question, and **code 2** for trees is entered for the third question. The answer **no** is indicated for the question “Does the point fall in a field containing practices that are under contract 14?” The completion check box is tapped to verify data entry.

2. Conservation Reserve Program II (see exhibit 2)

Point #3 falls in a 100-acre field where the two grassed waterways were accepted under CRP 14; 70 acres of the field are within the PSU. One waterway is 1.9 acres, and the other is 1.3 acres. Both waterways are within the PSU boundary. On the PDA screen 2.1 Conservation Reserve Program I, the answer **no** is indicated for the first question. The answer **yes** is indicated for the question, “Does the point fall in a field containing practices within the PSU that are under contract 14?” The completion check box is tapped to verify data entry on screen 2.1. On screen 2.2, the line under practices is tapped. From the choice list, **grassed waterway** is selected. In the area under acres, **3.2** is entered for the total acres within the PSU boundary. The size of field within PSU is recorded as **70 acres**. The completion check box is tapped to verify data entry.

3. Conservation Reserve Program II (see exhibit 3)

Point #3 is in an 80-acre field that contains acreage accepted under CRP signup 14; 20 acres of the field are within the PSU boundary. In that portion of the field outside the PSU boundary, 10 acres of contour grass strips have been contracted under signup 14. No contracted practices are in the portion of the field that is within the PSU boundary. On PDA screen 2.1, Conservation Reserve Program I, the answer **No** is indicated for the first question, and questions 2 and 3 are skipped. The answer **No** is also indicated for the last question, “Does the point fall in a field containing practices within the PSU that are under contract 14?” The completion check box is tapped to verify data entry.

4. Conservation Reserve Program II (see exhibit 4)

Point #1 is in a field with practices accepted for CRP signup 14. The field is 80 acres; 40 acres are within the PSU boundary and 40 acres are outside the PSU. In the 40 acres outside the PSU boundary, 6 acres are shallow water areas for wildlife. In the 40 acres of the field inside the PSU boundary, 9.3 acres of riparian buffers are accepted for contract under CRP signup 14. On PDA screen 2.1 Conservation Reserve Program I, the answer is **No** for the first question, and questions 2 and 3 are skipped. The answer **Yes** is recorded for the question, “Does the point fall in a field containing practices within the PSU that are under contract 14?” The completion check box is tapped to verify data entry on screen 2.1. On PDA screen 2.2, Conservation Reserve Program I, the line under practices is tapped. From the choice list, **Riparian buffer** is selected. In the acres column, **9.3** is entered. At the bottom of this screen, **40 acres** is entered for size of field within PSU. The completion check box is tapped to verify data entry. (Note: The 6 acres of shallow water areas for wildlife are not recorded because they are in the portion of the field outside the PSU.)

5. Conservation Reserve Program II (see exhibit 5)

Point Module II Glossary

(The following definitions were extracted from the 1997 National Resources Inventory glossary.)

CRP establishment of permanent vegetative cover (contour grass strips). A vegetation area that follows the contour of the land, the width of which is determined using the appropriate FOTG and which is so designated by a conservation plan developed under this part. [Federal Register, Final Rule, February 19, 1997]

CRP field windbreaks, shelterbelts, living snow fences. A vegetative barrier with a linear configuration composed of trees, shrubs, or other vegetation, as determined by Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), which are designated as such practices in a conservation plan and which are planted for the purpose of reducing wind erosion, snow control, wildlife habitat, and energy conservation. [Federal Register, Final Rule, February 19, 1997]

CRP filter strips. A strip or area of vegetation the purpose of which is to remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, and other processes; thereby reducing pollution and protecting surface water and subsurface water quality and of a width determined appropriate for the purpose by the applicable Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG). [Federal Register, Final Rule, February 19, 1997]

CRP grassed waterway. A practice constructing and establishing a grassed waterway under the Conservation Reserve Program. [NRI-97]

CRP grasses and legumes. A practice establishing grasses and legumes under the Conservation Reserve Program. [NRI-97]

CRP riparian buffer. A strip or area of vegetation of a width determined appropriate by the applicable FOTG the purpose of which is to remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, and other processes; thereby reducing pollution and protecting surface water and subsurface water quality which are also intended to provide shade to reduce water temperature for improved habitat for aquatic organisms and supply large woody debris for aquatic organisms and habitat for wildlife. [Federal Register, Final Rule, February 19, 1997]

CRP shallow water areas for wildlife. A practice establishing shallow water areas for wildlife under the Conservation Reserve Program. [NRI-97]

CRP shallow water cover. A practice establishing cover for shallow water areas under the Conservation Reserve Program. [NRI-97]

CRP trees. A practice establishing trees under the Conservation Reserve Program. [NRI-97]

CRP wildlife and components. A practice establishing wildlife plantings and related components under the Conservation Reserve Program. [NRI-97]